

## Who's Who @ BFPC



Rector: Rev Tim Storey  
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### Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Blandford Forum

The office is open 9.30-12.00 weekday mornings.

Telephone: 01258-456260

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#### Parish Admin Manager

Jill Cuss - jill@bfpc.org.uk

#### Administrator

Di Jack - di@bfpc.org.uk

#### Administration Assistant

Louise Moogan - louise@bfpc.org.uk

Lay Ministers:	Jennie Rake	451186
	Osbert Tun Pe	450891
	Mark Riley	860718
Wardens:	Sara Loch	450278
	Gail Del-Pinto	451573
Treasurer:	Heather Stringer	454864

### Parish of All Saints, Langton Long

Wardens:	John Hellewell	450455
	Colin Miles	452010
Treasurer:	Charles Culshaw	453042

Please note that Tim's day off is Friday and Rosy's day off is Monday. The Staff are usually unavailable between 5.00 and 7.00pm each evening.

**For all other contact details, please phone the parish office or see the Parish website: [www.bfpc.org.uk](http://www.bfpc.org.uk)**

## Parish Info & News

### Diary for September

- 1-5<sup>th</sup> Great Dorset Steam Fair
- 7<sup>th</sup> Anointed Healer @the centre
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dorset Historic Churches Cycle ride
- 18<sup>th</sup> Kids@the centre
- 24<sup>th</sup> Girls@BFPC Chinese evening
- 27<sup>th</sup> Prayer for the Persecuted Church
- 29<sup>th</sup> Messy Church @the Centre

### News from Langton Long

What a lovely way to start and end a month - on August 1, we celebrated the baptism of Jack. The service was taken by David Wheaton and was a happy family occasion. On 28 August the wedding of Helen del Pinto and Paul Keevil will take place, which no doubt will be another wonderful celebration.

On our coffee mornings on 21 July and 18 August we were delighted to welcome so many friends and enjoyed getting to know new visitors.

We also served coffee at BFPC on 14 August but visitors were few.

Unfortunately, we received some distressing news on Saturday 7 August. Some individuals broke into the vestry and were able to cause considerable havoc before they fled. The police were called and thanks to Colin's and Barbara's hard work after they had gone, the Sunday service could take place as planned. It has left us feeling saddened that anyone would want to cause such mayhem in a place of worship.

We now look towards a colourful autumn and being able to have a proper Harvest service at All Saints this year since last year we were surrounded by stacked up pews and little room to move! Please come and join us.

Annette Orton



## "Outlook" - News from Blandford Forum & Langton Long.

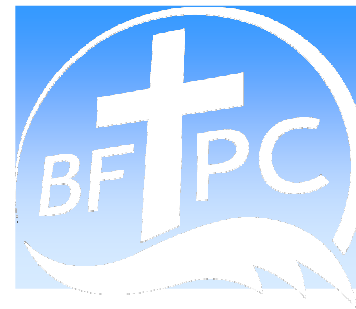
Our Mission: "To Discover and Nurture Relationships in Jesus Christ."

Our Vision: "To see every road in Blandford Forum baptised in the love of God."

Langton Vision: "To build a joyful Fellowship of Healing and Wholeness."

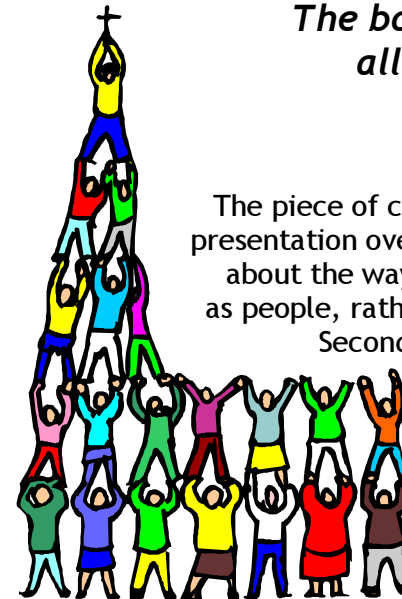
Parish Office: 01258 456260 Email: office@bfpc.org.uk Web Site: [www.bfpc.org.uk](http://www.bfpc.org.uk)

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# Outlook

News from Blandford Forum and Langton Long



***The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body.***

1 Corinthians 12:12&13

The piece of clipart with this article has made more than one or two appearance on powerpoint presentation over the past couple of years and it is simple because I believe that it speaks clearly about the way that the Church lives and grows in the community. Firstly it portrays the Church as people, rather than an institution or a building, and speaks about unity and interdependence.

Secondly, it speaks of the Church as having a shape which we can recognise and thirdly, it consists of everyone, not just one or two people.

Over the coming couple of months, we are going to be talking about why BFPC and Langton look the way they do as communities, and we shall be basing it on the A-B-C-D-E idea: All Involved, Becoming Disciples, Creating Community, Doing Evangelism and Encountering Jesus. These five principles come from the ideas behind Cell Church, where the Church is expressed in small groups as well as in the bigger Sunday congregation.

In many ways, that is what we seek to do at BFPC, and the growth in our Home Groups has been specifically aimed to express these ideas. The aim is that the Home Groups are not self-contained little Churches (whereby people no longer need to be part of a wider Sunday worshipping group) but become close-knit mini-communities where active involvement and discipleship, prayer and outreach, and much, much more, are a natural part of the life of the Group.

Our Mission Statement is "To Discover and Nurture Relationships in Jesus Christ" and the aim is that, day by day, these relationships discovered and nurtured in three directions simultaneously: with each other, in the life of the Church; with God, through our personal relationship with him; and with those who we seek to reach with the Gospel in Blandford and Langton. Coming into a Church service on a Sunday morning can be an intimidating and curious experience - it is not hard to see that being invited along to a small group during a midweek is a far more comfortable concept and is more likely to see a relationship discovered, nurtured and grow to maturity. So our Home Groups exist as the primary vehicle for these relationships - which is why I am always encouraging people to join one!

Equally, our Vision Statement, "To see every road in Blandford Forum baptised in the love of God." exists as our Vision of what happens when the Home Groups are all growing and engaging with the ideas of A-B-C-D-E mentioned above. When that happens, we become a Church which is exciting and attractive to those who come into contact with us.

The past year has seen God change many things in the life of BFPC with the wonderful gift of our Parish Centre and lives which have been challenged and changed through the work of the Holy Spirit. This does not mean that we are changing the structures in the Church: the way we express things may change, but I still believe God wants us to grow with the structures of Home Groups and the A-B-C-D-E principles - which is why the coming months will see us explore them both on Sundays and in Home Groups.

You probably saw this coming ... but if you are not in a Home Group (yet), there is no better time to join one! Either have a chat with me, or if you know of a Home Group and would like to go along, have a chat with someone in it - they will be very pleased to take you along, I am absolutely sure of that!

The Body is, as Paul says, a unit, and the Home Groups have been a place where the Body is both exercising and exploring what it means "to be Church". Please come and find out more!

Tim Storey

# Life @ BFPC and Langton Long



## Meet Jill Cuss - our new Parish Admin Manager

It has been sad to see Su leave the Parish Office to return to teaching as we are incredibly grateful for all her hard work over the past few years. We pray that God will bless her in her new job at Yarrells School in Poole - and we thank God for giving us Jill to step so neatly into the Office, with a new role and title! Jill will be overseeing the Centre Administration, as well as overseeing the work of the Office and assisting Tim in the events and activities of Parish life.

So, meet Jill ...

Jill grew up in South West London and moved to Dorset in 1993. She lives in Blandford with husband Adrian, who works with young adults with learning difficulties, and a Jack Russell called Sophie, who is 17. They have two grown up children, both living away from home. Jill worked in Social Housing for years and was part of the Mental Health team in Blandford providing intensive support to young adults with severe mental health problems before moving on to a Housing Association in Christchurch as a Housing Officer. They moved to France in 2004 for 3 years, returning to Blandford in October 2007 and started attending BFPC in 2008 - the rest is history !!!! Jill enjoys reading, foreign holidays (money and time permitting) and cooking - not always with the brilliant results she hopes for (ask Adrian!!!)

## Messy Church



A great time was had by children and adults alike as we experienced messy church together as a family on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July. The next Messy church time is in the Parish Centre on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 3-6pm. Please contact the church office or Rosy Coldwell if you would like any more details.

## Waiting for Take off - Dan Roberts

We were on our way to the airport having got up very early, and I was explaining to Heidi, my wife, that I was certain God had given me a verse during our short night's sleep. Unfortunately, the bibles were packed in the suitcases and not being seasoned travellers, we did not feel relaxed enough to unpack them immediately and decided we would wait until we had landed in Geneva to find the bibles and read the passage.

Heidi and I are about to begin another new chapter in our journey with God. I have a strong conviction, as I did in the car travelling to Gatwick in December 2005 that God is leading me in a new direction, but I do not fully know where this journey is going to take us. We certainly know much more about the journey now than we did in May this year, when God asked us to trust him and for me to hand in my notice as a full time Science teacher. After confirming this instruction through conversations with trusted friends and testing this call through specific situations, God also gave a helpful picture to a close friend in which a left handed golfer (I am the only one of these my friend knows, so he knew it was for me), was standing on the green ready to take his next shot. As other golfers will know, this moment as you face the hole involves careful thought to work out the pace of the green and reading where you think the ball might travel.

There comes a moment when you just have to strike the ball towards the hole! So with confidence that God was going to fill in the next steps, I wrote my resignation letter and 'took the putt'.

The next chapter in our journey involves me taking on a role within BFPC as an 'Outreach Pastor'. Exactly what this role will look like I wait with excitement to discover but, as the title suggests, it will involve me in expanding the work of outreach at BFPC. This started some time ago when Chris Tomes and I spent many hours sitting outside the church offering help to people in the town centre and the more recent activities in the Parish Centre.

As part of our story I will be undertaking a course in Applied Theology part time over three years. The possibility of this course surfaced in early May this year, when I was probing a long held desire to progress my faith adventure in a more formally acknowledged way. The training this course will provide will help me grapple with the challenge of reaching out to the people of our town with God's love as immortalised in our Vision statement. Since the course has a specific focus on Christian Leadership, it will help me work with Tim and the staff and ministry teams at BFPC much more closely as we all work towards fulfilling our God given vision 'to see every road in Blandford Forum baptised in the love of God'. We need to explore what God is already doing, and find ways of showing that He is present here and in their lives; that he knows them by name and loves them dearly. In our stuttering human way, we have begun the work of expressing God's love through the many of the exciting things happening at the Centre. Cooking a traditional breakfast for 60 people (twice so far!), providing home made soup, cakes and ice cream for free, and running the kids@ the Centre activity nights, have met with a terrific response from those who have never before been to our church. It seems likely therefore that these activities will form a part of the plan God has to fulfil his vision for BFPC and Blandford as a whole.

Heidi and I have been members of BFPC for 15 years, and we have an unshakeable sense that this time is what we have been waiting for. After years spent getting to the airport and boarding the plane, the wheels have started rolling on the runway and we are about to take off!

I feel God gave me this prayer as we enter this exciting phase and so I share it in the hope that we can begin to pray it together;

### Mission Prayer

O Lord our Father, we pray to you as the God of this town. Let your kingdom come here in Blandford.

Lead us to the people and places where you are working through your Holy Spirit, and help us nurture these relationships.

Help us to understand how we can bring the knowledge of Jesus Christ to these your people.

Fill us with wisdom and courage, and send us out in the power of your name to baptise every road in this town in your love.

Equip us and empower us to claim your victory over sin and death so that we may proclaim your grace and mercy in Blandford Forum.

Help us to shine like stars and bring glory to You, that this town may be known as Your town.

In the name of Jesus Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit,

Amen.